

**I Claim as My Invention:**

1. A server for a communications network having a plurality of communications units which are networked to one another, the server comprising:

a first interface for connecting the server to the communications network;

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a first controller for centrally controlling network-wide performance features in the communications network.

2. A server for a communications network as claimed in claim 1,  
10 wherein signaling messages are at least one of generated and evaluated by the first controller in order to control the performance features, the signaling messages being transmitted between the transmitted between the server and at least one of the plurality of communications units.

3. A server for a communications network as claimed in claim 2,  
15 wherein the first interface transmits the signaling messages between the server and at least one communications unit.

4. A server for a communications network as claimed in claim 1,  
20 further comprising:  
a storage device for centrally storing performance feature-specific data.

5. A server for a communications network as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the first controller controls performance features associated with an  
25 individual communications unit.

6. A server for a communications network as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein the first controller controls performance features associated with a plurality of communications units simultaneously.

7. A server for a communications network as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first interface establishes a connection between the server and the communications units via a local network, the data being transmitted using an IP protocol.

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8. A communications unit for a communications network having a server, wherein the server includes a first interface for connecting the server to the communications network and a first controller for centrally controlling network-wide performance features in the communications network, the communications unit comprising:

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a second interface for connecting the communications unit to the communications network;

a second controller for controlling the performance features in the communications network using the server.

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9. A communications unit for communications network as claimed in claim 8, wherein signaling messages are at least one of generated and evaluated by the second controller in order to control the performance features, the signaling messages being transmitted between the server and the communications unit.

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10. A communications unit for a communications network as claimed in claim 9, wherein the second interface transmits the signaling messages between the communications unit and the server.

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11. A communications unit for a communications network as claimed in claim 8, wherein the second interface establishes a connection between the server and the communications unit via a local network, the data being transmitted using an IP protocol.

